formulation of M/s. Infar based on Metaclopromide under DPCO, 1979 and 1987 and at what price each was sold on 15th May, 1990;

(c) whether it is a fact that the company is only producing price decontrolled drugs;

(d) if so, the names of the price decontrolled drugs licensed to M/s. Infar and the capacity sanctioned for each; and

(e) since when the company is not reporting the production of Betamethasone, Dexamethasone and Prednisolone and what action has been taken by his Ministry against the company?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) As per information available from the company production of Metaclopromide was started in 1988-89. The company produced 50 Kgs. in 1988-89 and 206 Kgs. in 1989-90.

(b) Details about the prices fixed for Metaclopromide based formulations under DPCO, 1979/1987 for M/s. Infar Ltd. are being ascertained.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Details of industrial approvals, such as names of companies, drugs licenced and capacities, issued from time to time are published regularly by India Investment Centre in their monthly newsletter copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(e) Of the referred drugs the company is licensed to produce Dexamethasone and Prednisone only. Both these drugs are not being produced by M/s. Infar. No action under law can be taken against a company for not producing a particular drug

Prices of finished medicines based on imported drugs

378. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 713 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import prices of all 50 drugs are much lower than the indigenous prices;

(b) whether it is a fact that the imports of these drugs are much more than the indigenous production;

(c) whether his Ministry has taken the average landed cost of import or indigenous price for working the consumer price of finished medicines based on these drugs; and

(d) what is the policy in this regard and how does that safeguard the interests of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) A statement giving information to the extent available in respect of domestic production, imports, import prices and indigenous prices is attached. In several instances import prices are more than indigenous prices. [*See* Appendix CLIV Annexure No. 95]

(c) The prices of formulations are based on the indigenous price of bulk drug in respect of formulators who also produce bulk drug whereas in case of other formulators the prices of formulations have been based on either the indigenous notified price or the purchase price.

(d) In order to ensure that the consumer gets the benefit formulation prices would be based on the indigenous price or the purchase price of bulk whichever is lower.

Taking over of sick units by State Government in Tamil Nadu

*379 SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of industrial

units which have become sick in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether these sick units have given suggestions for their rescue and for covering up of the losses incurred by them;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether Government of Tamil Nadu have sought the permission from the Central Government to take over these sick units; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and the Central Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) a quasi judicial body, has been set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA) for determination of the measures which shall be adopted with respect to the sick industrial company. As per the provisions of SICA, 1985, large and medium scale sick industrial units are to statutorily report their sickness to the BIFR. As reported by BIFR, 76 cases were registered under Section 15 of SICA relating to the State of Tamil Nadu upto 30.4.90 Details of the same are attacned at Annexure [*See* Appendix CLIV Annexure No. 96]

The names of the sick small scale industrial units are not being centrally maintained.

(d) Textile Ministry has informed that 6 proposals have been received from the Govt. of Tamil Nadu under Section 18AA of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act 1951 for permission to take over the same. They are:—

1. Mettur Textiles
2. Jayalakshmi Mills
3. Bhavani Mills
4. Sivamani Spg. Mills
5. Mahalakshmi Textile Mills
6. Vasantha Mills.

(e) Take over or nationalisation does not provide a lasting solution to the problem of sickness. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been advised by Ministry of Textiles that it would have no objection to the Govt. of Tamil Nadu taking over of these mills, provided their viability is first established before BIFR/ Nodal Agency and the packages for their rehabilitation, are approved by BIFR/ Nodal Agency and all concerned parties agree to the reliefs and concessions envisaged from them in such packages. The State Govt. was also advised to examine the feasibility of taking possession directly from Liquidator/ Receiver without recourse to formal takeover.

Revision in the Rates of Royalty for Coal

*380. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to revise the rates of royalty for different grades of coal;

(b) whether coal producing states have suggested for revision of the rates of royalty;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised w e.f. 13.2.1981. A Study Group was constituted in Nov. 1984 to consider the question of further revision of rates of royalty on coal keeping in view the impact of the proposed rates on consumers of Coal, revenue of States and other relevant factors. The study group met the representatives of the State Government and obtained their views.

Some of the State Governments such as Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa have pressed for fixation of royalty on coal on ad-valorem basis instead of